

# MARINE CORPS WARFIGHTING LABORATORY

The Marine Corps has historically conducted concept-based experimentation to help chart future combat development and deliver advanced capabilities to the operating forces. **Sea Viking 2004** continues this tradition with a series of events designed to inform senior leaders on key issues affecting the future of Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare and Sea Power 21.

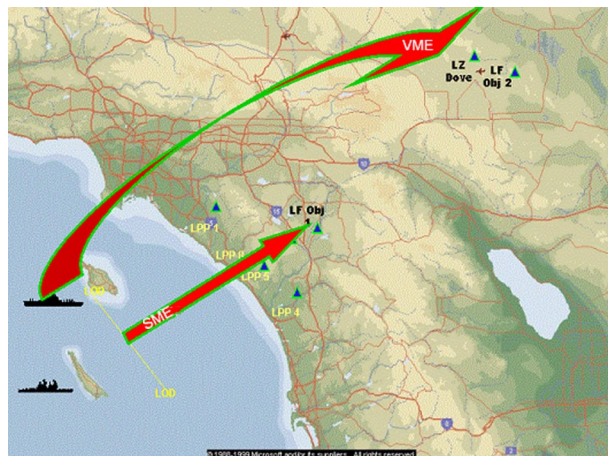
Guidance comes from the Commandant of the Marine Corps and is based on the premise that true experimentation is critical to combat development and failure is accepted and expected. SV 04 will focus on a seabased Marine Expeditionary Brigade; be conducted as a Naval experiment within a Joint context; determine how to project and sustain a seabased force; and involve and leverage Joint and non-military activities.

**Description:** The SV 04 campaign will be conducted in four phases. Phases 1 and 2 will define organizational responsibilities, proposed capabilities and conduct preliminary assessments (command post exercises, modeling and simulation, limited technical assessments, workshops and wargames). Phases 3 and 4 will incorporate more formal assessment activities and culminate in a two-part Advanced Warfighting Experiment during the fall of 2004. Part 1 of the AWE will be a modeling and simulation-driven CPX designed to examine potential advanced concepts, organizations, command relationships and tactics used by future Naval forces operating as part of a Joint operation. Part 2 will be a live-force field experiment that will look at the marriage of advanced operational concepts and selected experimental technologies. Though perhaps the most visible aspect of the campaign, the field experiment is only a partial contributor to the desired end state. The events leading up to it will define SV 04's overall success or failure. The information garnered throughout SV 04 experimentation will drive the Marine Corps Expeditionary Force Development System and shape future Naval forces.

**Organizations:** SV 04 seeks to unify the efforts of Navy and Marine Corps Combat Development Commands, the

## SEA VIKING 2004

### *fact sheet*



Marine Corps Advocates and the Operating Forces. I MEF and 3d Fleet will provide the bulk of operating forces in preliminary events and the AWE. Joint and Coalition participation is envisioned throughout the campaign.

**Focus and Objectives:** SV 04's overarching objective is to provide the information senior Marine Corps leaders need to make decisions on key issues. These decisions will have significant Joint and Naval implications. The experiment will also examine specific operational capabilities of a seabased MEB using surrogate technologies. These surrogates may address immediate concerns of Marine Corps operating forces, like the ability to conduct large-scale, seabased, helicopter-borne operations and "on-the-move/over-the-horizon" command and control (OTM/OTH C2). Technologies and procedures that survive the scrutiny of true experimentation will remain with the operating forces for follow-on experimentation or tactical employment.

**Public Affairs Office:** (703) 784-5170

**DTD:** July 24, 2003, njr



3255 MEYERS AVENUE  
QUANTICO, VA 22134  
[WWW.MCWL.QUANTICO.USMC.MIL](http://WWW.MCWL.QUANTICO.USMC.MIL)



